

WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE.



Fifth Year, No. 42

New York and New Haven, Saturday, October 19, 1889

Price 3 Cents

THE PLATFORM

AS ADOPTED BY THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

The Purpose of Democratic Government Frustrated by Economic Inequality—Signs of the Times. Capitalism Working Out Its Own Destruction and Preparing the Advent of the Co-operative Commonwealth—Social and Political Demands.

As we go to press the Convention of the Socialist Labor Party has just adjourned, and with the limited facilities at our command, anything like a fair account of its five days' proceedings could not be given in this number without unduly delaying its appearance. A complete report will, therefore, appear in our next issue. In the meantime we publish the platform as adopted.

THE PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic, we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty, and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold, that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage-slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery with all their concomitant evils are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the S. L. P. once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence; and

Whereas, the time is fast coming when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall; therefore, be it

Resolved, that we call upon the people to organize with a view to the substitution of the co-operative commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

We call upon them to unite with us in a mighty effort to gain by all practicable means the political power.

SOCIAL DEMANDS.

1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.
2. The United States shall obtain possession of the railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones, and all other means of public transportation and communication.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants, and all industries requiring municipal franchises.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. Legal incorporation by the States

of local Trade Unions which have no national organization.

6. Furthering of workmen's co-operative productive associations by public credit; such associations to be preferred in the placing of contracts for public works.

7. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

8. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

9. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

10. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

11. School education of all children under 14 years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous, and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

12. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy, and sumptuary laws. Unbridled right of combination.

13. Official statistics concerning the condition of labor. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and of the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

14. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of women's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

15. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

POLITICAL DEMANDS.

1. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the Referendum principle.

2. Abolition of the Presidency, Vice-Presidency and Senate of the United States. An Executive Board to be established, whose members are to be elected, and may at any time be recalled, by the House of Representatives as the only legislative body. The States and Municipalities to adopt corresponding amendments to their constitutions and statutes.

3. Municipal self-government.

4. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of minority representation to be introduced.

5. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

6. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

PHILADELPHIA.

On Sunday evening, October 13, the cycle of weekly lectures under the auspices of the American Section, S. L. P., of Philadelphia, were inaugurated at Hancock Hall, 814 Girard avenue.

The subject, "What is Socialism and Who are Socialists?" was clearly defined to an interested audience by Miss Voltaire de Clare. She began by wishing the

odium and ostracism to which those who profess Socialism are exposed removed. She then divided the opponents of Socialism into different classes. To those who imagine them dynamiters, who would like to bring about a reign of terror under the red flag, her reply was: "You are bringing about the revolution through your reckless rate of production and overproduction while thousands are starving. The red flag is only the symbol of fraternity." Those who think Socialism would equalize everything she ridiculed by asking if a man six feet in height could be cut down to five, and the remaining foot placed upon a four-foot man? To those who think Socialism an importation she said, "Let us have it if it is a better article than the home market can produce." Christian Socialists were not forgotten as opponents because they think it can be brought about by charity and brotherly love, which she thought impossible while money ruled the world. "Socialism," she continued, "has a twofold nature: emotional, coming from the heart, and scientific, from the head. Most people are emotional socialists; but scientific, intellectual Socialism consists in the adaptation of the principle of justice to the economic conditions, it being a science as true as arithmetic or physics." She clearly showed the injustice of monopolizing inventions to enslave humanity, and finished with a beautiful picture of a storm she had witnessed on Lake Huron which, after having passed over in the evening, might have passed over; but it burst during the night to give way to a beautiful sunrise in the morning. We are on the eve. Will it pass over? She is afraid not. After the lecture remarks in opposition were in order, when several single-tax men spoke, one especially not liking the gloom cast upon him, and through several remarks brought the audience to smiles after the touching appeal of Voltaire de Clare.

JULIUS NECKER, Rec. Sec.

ORGANIZED LABOR.

STRIVING FOR UNIFICATION IN NEW YORK CITY.

The Harmonizing Committees of the Central Labor Federation and Central Labor Union Make Their Report—Cigarmakers in the Way of Amalgamation—Punishment Demanded for Murderous Capitalistic Corporations.

A delegate of the Bookbinders Union presented at the last meeting of the

CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION.

Typographers No. 7 again complained that several unions patronize printing offices not under the jurisdiction of the Federation. Section New Bedford, Mass., S. L. P., sent a letter endorsing the boycott against the World. New

delegates were admitted from the Fresco Painters' Union, Urania Labor Club, Locksmiths and Railingmakers, Musical Progressive Union No. 1 and Furniture Workers' Union No. 7.

The Arbitration Committee reported that Beethoven Hall, in Fifth street, is a scab place throughout. All unions are requested to cancel their contracts with the lessee of said hall.

The Harmonizing Committee then presented its report recommending that a new pledge be adopted by which the delegates are to declare that they in no wise participate prominently in the politics of the old parties; that all unions hold their meetings in union places; that the new Central body adopt the charter from the American Federation of Labor. The other recommendations were identical with those of the report offered to the C. L. U. by its Harmonizing Committee. In conclusion the report stated that the amalgamation of both central bodies might take place immediately but for the differences among the Cigarmakers' International Union and the Progressive Assembly of Cigarmakers. There was no debate upon the report, as the committee had been given full power to act in the premises. The only question debatable was, as the chairman stated, the trouble among the Cigarmakers. The delegates of Cigarmakers' Union No. 144 vehemently protested against recognizing the Progressive Assembly, as its members were keeping unlimited hours and they worked at about \$2.00 per thousand cigars less than the members of the International Union. The committee was instructed to act as they thought would be right.

When the committee reported that the C. L. U. wanted a list of the unions represented in the C. L. U. several delegates expressed the opinion that some trick was contemplated by the bookbinders in the C. L. U., and the committee was instructed to hold on to the list, and not deliver it into the hands of Matthew Barr and his confederates.

The Organizing Committee reported having arranged for a mass meeting to organize the English-speaking bakers. The delegate of the Journeymen Bakers reported that the boss bakers of Newark N. J., had formed a pool like their colleagues of New York and Brooklyn, with the avowed intention of breaking up the Bakers' Union.

The Newsdealers' Union stated that they were boycotting the World with all their might, and that they favored the publication of a labor weekly printed in the English language.

From the Excelsior Labor Club a communication was read signed by C. F. Doody, Thos. F. Kenney and J. Ratzner, inviting the Federation to take part in a convention whose object it was to be to agitate for ballot reform and the support of candidates favoring the same. The chairman ruled the invitation out of order.

Branch 4, Carpenters and Joiners announced that henceforth they would be known as Local Union No. 513 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

Brewers' Union No. 1 reported having taken fifteen shares of the Brooklyn Co-operative Baking Company, and that its members have decided against political action this fall. The same report came from the Custom Varnishers and Upholsterers.

The Eccentric Engineers complained of Brewers' Union No. 1 for having organized a Brewery Engineers' Union, thereby violating the agreement made with them some time ago. The matter was referred to the Grievance Committee.

The Locksmiths and Railingmakers declared against political action as proposed by the C. L. U.

The Oystermen's Union reported that they gave \$10 to the locked-out bakers. The Phoenix Labor Club has organized a mutual assistance fund, and took five shares of the Co-operative Baking Company.

The Urania Labor Club reported that the three waiters' unions were about to amalgamate.

A resolution was adopted asking

Mayor Grant to proceed against the electric light companies in the criminal courts for destroying the lives of citizens. The secretary was also instructed to call the attention of the State factory inspector to the terrible death of the boy Patrick Whelan, who was killed by machinery in Travers Bros' factory last week.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION.

At last Sunday's meeting of the Central Labor Union in Clarendon Hall, George Middleton, of the Amalgamated Carpenters, occupied the chair. The Harmonizing Committee was granted the floor to make a report. Its chairman said that the committee in question had held fifteen meetings, and taken in consideration the different protests that were brought before it.

The protest of Confectioners' Union 64 against Confectioners' and Cake Bakers' Progressive Union No. 1 had been settled satisfactorily.

Newspaper Printers' protest against Pressmen's Union No. 9 had been disposed of by the C. L. U., excluding the latter for scabbing in the World.

The committee recommended to suspend Waiters' Union No. 1, the Urania Labor Club and the Teutonia Labor Club until such time when they would have amalgamated into one organization of waiters.

In the case of the Progressive Cigarmakers the committee was unable to agree, and asked what should be done in the premises.

A discussion had been had on changing the name of the new reorganized body, and the committee recommended the name of the "Central Labor Union of New York." Also it was recommended to adopt the constitution and platform of the C. L. U., with such alterations taken from the platform and constitution of the C. L. F. added as proposed by this committee. At the first meeting of the new reorganized body an election of officers should take place, and two months after the union it should by vote be decided to accept the charter of the American Federation of Labor. All labor organizations should only meet in union places hereafter.

It was decided, upon hearing this report, that it be laid over till next Sunday, when a special meeting should be held to take action in the matter.

The delegate from the Teutonia Labor Club reported that his organization was in favor of amalgamating all waiter organizations in the city. His organization would at once proceed to take the necessary steps in this direction.

Eccentric Association of Engineers No. 1 complained against the World newspaper for employing three non-union engineers. The matter was referred to the Grievance Committee.

The Trunkmakers reported having a strike on hand at Crouch & Fitzgerald, Forty-first street and Ninth avenue, on account of a twenty-five per cent. reduction of wages. Their men had been out four weeks now, and the firm would not take them back at all unless they came as individuals. The organization asked for moral and financial aid. It was decided to endorse the strike and issue a special appeal to the different organizations represented in the C. L. U., asking them for financial help for the striking trunkmakers.

Credentials were received from the National Granite Cutters' Union and the Herbert Association of Waiters.

Mayor Grant replied to a former communication from the C. L. U. that he had called the attention of the police authorities to the complaint of the Hackmen's Association.

The Balfie Musical Club and Progressive Varnishers No. 1 reported in favor of changing the meeting time from Sunday to some week night. Progressive Painters No. 1 were not in favor of doing so.

A Brooklyn committee requested the C. L. U. to appoint a committee to act with them in making the sacred concert for the benefit of the family of the late labor agitator, John G. Caville, a great success. This concert is to take place on November 10th in Jacobs' Brooklyn Theatre. The request was granted, and a committee of five appointed for this purpose.

A call from the Excelsior Labor Club for a convention to take political action was not read, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Outside Communications.

The Prudence Association and the Edison Association reported having been locked out at Simon & Kaufmann, Forty-seventh street and Ninth avenue, and at S. J. Taylor, Forty-eighth street and North River, because their men refused to handle sheepskins that had been skinned by non-union butchers. They asked all workmen to stay away from these woolpuling establishments until the trouble had been settled.

The most contemptible man is the fellow who pretends to be a union man and a great friend of labor, and yet who through malice and hate seeks to injure labor societies and labor men in a sneakish, underhand manner. — Exchange.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

SOME OF ITS "BEAUTIFUL" RESULTS IN OUR DAYS.

Social Misery, Fraud, Crime and "Accidents"—Victims of the Moloch of Capitalism—The Ever Returning Picture of Barbarism and Reckless Waste of Life and Life's Resources.

John Tevenin, 19 years old, of 534 West 45th street, while at work on a building at 75th street and Tenth avenue, fell from the fourth story to the ground and was instantly killed. Similar accidents are of daily occurrence. What of the laws for the protection of life and limb?

"I hope I killed him. He deserved it long ago," said Mrs. Kate Hayburn last Friday evening as she was locked up in the Thirty-fifth street station house for stabbing her husband in the left side with a pair of shears. The wife, although but nineteen years old, according to her story has led a horrible life since her marriage, eighteen months ago.

Mrs. Hayburn was considered before her marriage to be the belle of her neighborhood. She had little of her beauty left yesterday. Her husband had kicked her about the face, bruised and tore her mouth, and loosened all her teeth. To defend herself she seized the shears and stabbed him. Hayburn, when but twenty years old, was a widower. His first wife, it is said, died from his abuse.

"Father" Mypolite Baronski, priest of a Polish Catholic church of Brooklyn, is accused by his former housekeeper, Magdalen Polyene, of having outraged her and of taking \$50 of her hard earned money. He went to Castle Garden, looked over the girls coming fresh from the old country and hired Magdalen. When she had been in his house for two days he broke into her room and debauched her—a favorite pastime with these sniveling professional liars and mountebanks. When the girl was about to become a mother he threw her into the street. The girl has now gone to law to recover her money from the scoundrelly priest.

John E. H. Feeks, chief lineman of the Western Union Telegraph Co., was incinerated last Friday by electric light wires at the corner of Centre and Chambers streets, New York, not a thousand yards from the City Hall, where Mayor Grant and other "dignitaries" have been deliberating for months how to get the capitalistic sneak-thieves owning those murderous wires to put them under the pavement where they cannot kill any one. It was a terrible sight. A lineman stretched, posed as though carved in marble, smoke issuing from his nostrils, fire flashing from his mouth, blood dropping from his neck, electric sparks darting like serpents' tongues from every finger of hands swollen and reddened to the point of bursting. A hundred thousand eyes looked on. Terror scattered the frightened multitude, as wire after wire was cut and fell hissing to the street. Comrades, pale, bloodless, ran from the sickening sight. Heroism in the person of a detailed lineman slowly ascended the pole at the corner of Centre and Chambers streets, cut the wire, disentangled the mangled body, fastened to his waist a rope, by the aid of which steadily hands carefully lowered the bruised and battered remnant of humanity, that it might be borne to the sorrowing home of bereaved wife and children. Six men have died in New York on the fatal wires since Sept. 4 last. On that day Darwin A. Henry, Superintendent of the East River station, merely touched the wires with his hand and fell dead. On September 14 Giuseppe Mazza, an Italian fruit dealer, met a horrible fate, similar to that of Feeks, being terribly burned. James Powers, a lineman employed by the Brush Company, was the next victim, being instantly killed on September 16. John Bell, a lineman employed by the United States Company, perished on the wires September 25. On October 8 Charles Erdman, a lineman in the employ of the Manhattan Company, was killed, and Feeks adds the sixth victim to the list, and there is no doubt but that the list will be continued for a good many months; for Mayor Grant and the members of the Board of Electrical Control are but the creatures of the capitalists who own New York and most other parts of this country and its inhabitants; and whose money bags are dearer to them than the lives of their wage slaves who cost them nothing.

Republican papers are charging that the Democrats of New Jersey have been engaged in amassing an immense corruption fund. Gottfried Kruger and the other brewers and the liquor dealers in the State who could be approached have been compelled to come down handsomely. The Republicans assert that the Democrats intend throwing \$300,000 into the State for the purchase of the floating vote on election day. Of course the votes of many people are

purchasable, and the only difficulty about it would be their polling. This difficulty the Democrats think they can overcome, as the machinery of the law in most of the counties is entirely in the hands of the Democracy. The Democratic papers, of course, say nothing about all this; but they, in turn, charge the Republicans of Ohio, Indiana and other States of cheating and defrauding them out of votes they claim to own for the Republican machine.

The terrible mining disaster in Midlothian, England, has come in due time to illustrate, in a fearful manner, the tribute Labor has to pay to meet the necessity of Capital having its profits. There is not a day passes but the claims of shareholders' profits must have their tribute of Labor's dead; but when this lesson comes to us in letters of fire in large text, it commands a passing notice from even the most thoughtful and unwilling learners. In the latter part of January twenty-three lives were taken at Cheshire in a mine explosion; two months later twenty lives were taken at North Wales, and now Scotland adds to the tribute with sixty-two lives at Mauchesswood Pit, Mid Lothian.

A verdict was rendered here by the jury which has been investigating the accident which occurred on the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad near Palatine Bridge on the night of September 27, resulting in the death of four persons and the injury of several others. The verdict censured the railroad company for gross negligence in running the sections of their trains so close together.

James Joseph Boyle, formerly assistant pastor of the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, of Raleigh, N. C., has been found guilty of a charge of felonious assault upon Miss Geneva Whiteacre, aged seventeen years, organist of the church, May 11, 1888, and sentenced by Judge Armfield to be hanged November 29.

The nine wholesale cake, cracker and biscuit bakers of Baltimore have entered a combination formed by bakers to regulate prices. This means, of course, that the price for bread is to be raised, and that the wages of the journeymen bakers are to be cut down. It means starvation in a little more pronounced way to those who labor.

Francis J. Green, 38 years old, a plumber lodging at 85 Sixth avenue, has for a long time suffered from consumption, but his applications for admission to a hospital have always been denied. On Sunday he swallowed a quantity of muriatic acid, and was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital. He admitted that he took the poison as an excuse to get into the hospital.

A committee appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Conference to investigate the charges against "Rev." Colonel John A. Danks, pastor of the Mt. Washington M. E. Church, of Austin, Texas, has returned a verdict finding Danks guilty of immoral conduct, of threatening the life of a fellow man, and of defamation of character. Danks was suspended from the ministry for one year and reprimanded by the Bishop before the conference.

An explosion occurred in the Bentile colliery at Longton, Staffordshire, England, at an early hour on Wednesday. There were seventy men in the pit at the time, and of these only ten are known to have survived. The pit is completely wrecked, and search for bodies is attended with great difficulty. A large force of men was set to work in clearing away debris and endeavoring to reach the dead and dying miners. The men engaged in searching for victims of the explosion have already found fifty bodies of the dead miners.

ASSIST THE TAILORS.

Two years ago there were but twenty-six unions in the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America. Now there are over one hundred. Two years from now there should be at least two hundred. Whether we shall have them or not depends largely upon each member. All tailors among us should read the union journal, *The Tailor*, and then send it to some town where there is no union. Send the general secretary, John B. Lennon, 85 East 7th street, New York City, the address of all the tailors in places where no union exists. Much can be done by correspondence in securing the addresses of tailors throughout the country. The tailors are intelligent men and most valuable in the economic movement. They should be assisted, as they will assist us when the time is ripe.

N. Y. AMERICAN SECTION.

A business meeting will be held on Friday, Oct. 25, at 8 o'clock p. m. at the Labor Lyceum, 25 East 4th street.

Order of business: Propose new admission of new members. Delegate Sanial about the position. Report of Committee Organization. All men requested to attend.

COMMITTEE ON